

Appln. No. 10/780,289
Amdt. dated September 27, 2005
Office Action Mailed June 28, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please replace the first two originally-filed drawing sheets (containing Figures 1 and 2) with the attached drawing sheets. Briefly, Figures 1 and 2 have been amended to designate them as Prior Art, and an incorrect, duplicate reference number has been corrected in Figure 2.

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney thanks Examiner Jackson for the Office Action mailed June 28, 2005. With reference to the Office Action, applicant's attorney is pleased to note that Examiner Jackson has indicated that Claims 2-4 contain allowable subject matter. However, the remaining pending claim (i.e., Claim 1) has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

By the foregoing amendments, the subject matter of allowable Claim 2 has been added to Claim 1, thereby necessitating the cancellation of Claim 2. In such circumstances, amended independent Claim 1 obviates the Examiner's prior art rejection and is therefore in condition for allowance.

With respect to the remaining claims (i.e., Claims 3 and 4), they both depend, either directly or indirectly, from amended independent Claim 1. In such circumstances, Claims 3 and 4 are therefore in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has objected to Figure 2. A replacement drawing sheet with the correct reference number is submitted herewith to overcome this objection. A second replacement drawing sheet is also submitted herewith, in which, along with the first replacement drawing sheet, Figures 1 and 2 have been designated as Prior Art.

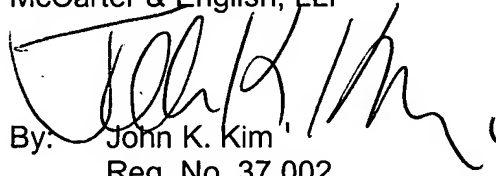
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant and his attorney respectfully submit that the amendments requested above put the present application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant's attorney respectfully requests entry of these amendments and allowance of the present application. Should there remain any questions or other matters whose resolution could be advanced by a telephone call, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at his number below.

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No fees are believed to be due in connection with this Amendment. However, if any fees, including petition and extension fees, are believed to be due in connection with the submittal of this Amendment, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 503571.

Respectfully Submitted,

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